



AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Dragons, Unicorns, & Mermaids — MYTHIC CREATURES —

CURATED BY: Laurel Kendall, *Division Chair and Curator, Division of Anthropology*
Mark Norell, *Macaulay Curator and Chair, Division of Paleontology*

Uncover the inspiration for some of the world's famed mythological beings, and explore their enduring hold on the human imagination.

For thousands of years, humans have brought mythic creatures to life in stories, music, and art. Discover the link between nature and myth, exploring the origin and significance of legendary creatures of the air, land and water. Examine magnificent cultural objects, come face-to-face with dramatic models, and enjoy multimedia and interactives that tell the story behind mythic creatures from around the world.

*“On a scale
of one to ten...
a mythical ten.”*

— THE NEW YORKER



Lifelike models include a kraken sea creature, a 17-foot dragon, a pegasus, and a unicorn.



Touchable casts and fossils include a dwarf elephant skull and a mammoth femur.



Cultural objects, such as books and maps depicting sea monsters, represent stories from around the world.



Digital and physical interactives invite visitors to build a dragon or arrange *Protoceratops* bones to look like a griffin.



Videos describe the origin stories and continuing impact of mythic creatures.



Exhibition Themes:

Creatures of Water

Examine cultural artifacts and lifelike models of imaginary sea monsters and mermaids, and discover which real animals may have inspired legendary beings like Sedna, the Inuit sea goddess.

Dragons

Legends from Europe and Asia portray dragons with different personalities and powers. Discover cultural artifacts, and create your own dragon at an interactive station.

Creatures of Land

Find out how the discovery of fossils such as *Protoceratops*, mammoths, and narwhals may have stirred tales of griffins, giants, and unicorns.

Mythic Creatures Today

Photo portraits and personal accounts depict the enduring impact of mythic creatures on people today.

Creatures of Air

Meet the Asian phoenix, the Greek sphinx, Hindu and Buddhist Garuda, Greek Pegasus and more. Experts reveal the origins of these beings in an engaging video.

“An intriguing blend of the surreal and the scientific.”

— THE GLOBE AND MAIL (TORONTO)

FIND OUT MORE:

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EXHIBITION CREDITS:

Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns & Mermaids is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York in collaboration with Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney; Canadian Museum of History, Gatineau; Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta; and The Field Museum, Chicago.

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The objects in this brochure represent the exhibition's content at AMNH, and may not appear at all venues.

SPECIFICATIONS:



VENUE GALLERY SIZE:
6,000 – 7,000 ft²



VENUE CEILING HEIGHT:
12 ft recommended



CONSERVATION + SECURITY:
Low



STANDARD RENTAL LENGTH:
14 – 16 weeks